

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

June 10, 2015

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell
Alexa Heffernan
Guy Richardson (absent)
Kim Spading (absent)
Sam Wallace

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Representative Joel Fry (absent)
Representative Lisa Heddens (absent)
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)
Senator Mark Segebart (absent)

STAFF

Chuck Palmer
Sandy Knudsen
Jen Harbison
Amy McCoy

Nancy Freudenberg
Wendy Rickman
Theresa Armstrong

GUESTS

Bob Lincoln, Black Hawk Community Services
Ashley Lutgen, County Social Services
Dennis Smith, Lutheran Services of Iowa

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Anderson, Vice Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2015, at the Hansen Spiritual Life Center, in Waverly, Iowa.

ROLL CALL

All Council members were present with the exception of Richardson and Spading. All ex-officio legislative members were absent.

RULES

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following rules to Council via phone:

R-1 Amendments to Chapters 78 and 83, Medicaid. Implements changes in administrative rules based on requirements from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the Intellectual (ID) and Brain Injury (BI) waivers.

A motion was made by Heffernan to approve and seconded by Hansell.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

REPORT OF NOTICED ACTION

N-1 Amendments to Chapters 112, 113, 117, 175, and 202. Implements federal law, specifically Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113-183) issued October 23, 2014.

A motion was made by Wallace to approve and seconded by Hansell. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Hansell to approve the minutes of May 13, 2015 and seconded by Heffernan. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jen Harbison, Policy Advisor, noted that the 2015 legislative session adjourned on June 5, 2015 and reported on the following:

- Medicaid appropriation
- Children's Mental Health Study Committee
- Medicaid Modernization Oversight Committee
- Creation of Long Term Care Ombudsman
- Provider rate increases
- Mt. Pleasant and Clarinda Mental Health Institutions

The Governor has 30-days to veto or sign bills into law.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chuck Palmer, Director, provided an update:

- The Department has received 11 bids for the "Iowa High Quality Healthcare Initiative" (Medicaid Modernization)
- Palmer suggested that "Medicaid Modernization" be a standing agenda topic at Council meetings

MHDS REDESIGN AND REGION UPDATE

Bob Lincoln, Administrator, Black Hawk County Community Services, presented to the Council.

Presentation highlights:

- MHD Redesign Objectives
 - Medicaid Match from the State (versus from the County)
 - Residence (versus Legal Settlement)
 - 15 Regions (versus 99 counties)
- Impact of Regions to Date
 - Crisis Stabilization & Intervention
 - Jail Diversion
 - 24-Hour Crisis Lines
 - Increased Community Capacity (Intensive Psych-Rehab)
 - Drug/Mental Health Courts
 - LifeLong Links
 - Supported Employment Opportunities and Capacity
 - Non-emergency transportation for civil commitment
 - Brain Injury Services
 - Olmstead Initiatives (RCF/Workshops)
- Access to coordination and community services
- Access to support services to remain in the community
- Access to facility supports to recover functioning to return to the community
- Interdisciplinary Team Process
- Intake Process

A map of the currently approved MHDS Regions was distributed.

A brochure for "Lifelong Links" was distributed. Lifelong Links is modeled on the "no wrong door" approach, and provides a single, coordinated point of entry to many of the state's information and referral resources, including Iowa

COMPASS, the Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging, the Iowa Family Caregiver Support Program and Iowa 2-1-1.

COUNCIL UPDATE

Mark Anderson introduced the Rev. Steven Ullestad. Rev. Ullestad, Bishop of the Northeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, welcomed the Council and thanked them for their leadership.

OVERVIEW OF FOSTER GROUP CARE

Wendy Rickman (via phone) provided an overview of Foster Group Care Services. In the continuum of services for Child Welfare, Foster Group Care is a more structured environment. In terms of children that go to group care, they are rarely removed from their homes and immediately sent to foster group care – most of the time there is a progression of either shelter care or a family placement. Often, by the time a child arrives at group care, they have been in more than one less-restrictive setting. These children (who usually are teenagers) can either be CINA (Child in Need of Assistance) or delinquents.

A map detailing group care facilities across the state was distributed. Utilization has decreased over the last few years. Average length of stay in group care is 1 year to 1 ½ years.

It was noted that Foster Group Care:

- Provides a stable living environment
- Engages families to help eliminate conditions that may have led to a child's removal from the home;
- Maintains connections to home and community; and,
- Provides for children's rehabilitation needs.

PMIC's (Psychiatric Medical Institutions for Children) are mental health facilities and are not foster group facilities.

Rickman noted that children can be treated in the community, and shorten their placements in group care facilities.

Anderson reported that Lutheran Services of Iowa (LSI) is the largest private provider of social services in the state and has 1200 employees. LSI provides services for the elderly, refugees and children and families. Foster Group Care is offered by LSI at Bremwood in Waverly, and Beloit, in Ames.

Dennis Smith, Director of Residential Services for LSI, reported that he is currently involved with an Annie Casey Foundation project to look at how to develop true outcomes. Smith oversees both the Waverly and Beloit campuses. He discussed LSI's work with Magellan to create "enhanced PMIC beds." Smith

lead the Council on a tour of the Bremwood Residential Treatment Center campus.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned at 1:15 p.m. to participate in the tour.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services will be Wednesday, July 8, 2015, which will be the “public hearing” for input on the Fiscal Year 2017 budget. The meeting will be held at the DHS Des Moines Service Area, River Place office.

Submitted by,

Sandy Knudsen
Recording Secretary

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